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NAS KEY WEST
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MINUTES AND AGENDA FROM 27 JANUARY 1997 RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING NAS KEY WEST FL
1/27/1997
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND SOUTHERN DIVISION

**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
NAVAL AIR STATION KEY WEST**

Meeting Agenda

Monday; January 27, 1997; 7:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn Beachside, N. Roosevelt Blvd., Key West

Welcome and Introductions

Public Comment Management for This Meeting

Susan Loder

Community Co-Chair

Old Business:

Fact Sheet Number 5

NFA Document for IR-2 and IR-6

Susan Loder

Community Co-Chair

Update of Interim Remedial Activities

Dudley Patrick

Southern Division, NAVFACENGCOM

Update of RCRA Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation Activities

Chuck Bryan

Brown & Root Environmental

Keystone Report Discussion

Ron Demes

Navy Co-Chair

Fiscal Year 1998 Projects

Dudley Patrick

Potential Topics for Next Meeting (March 31, 1997):

Update of Interim Remedial Activities

Update of RFI/RI Activities

Update of BRAC Activities

Susan Loder and Ron Demes

Adjournment and Invitation

Susan Loder

Poster Session and Refreshments

**NAVAL AIR STATION KEY WEST
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY**

7:00 p.m.
January 27, 1997
Holiday Inn Beachside
Key West, Florida

Restoration Advisory Board Members Present:

Ron Demes, Navy Co-Chair
Susan Loder, Community Co-Chair
Martha Berry, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Robin Orlandi, Community Member
Dudley Patrick, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Dent Pierce, Community Member
Mimi Stafford, Community Member

Other government or contractor personnel present:

Jim Reed, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
CDR James Cruz, NAS Key West
LT Jonathan Hupp, NAS Key West Public Affairs Officer
Paul Camire, Environmental Coordinator, NAS Key West Public Works Office
Phillip Williams, NAS Key West Public Works Office
Miriam A. Lareau, COMNAVBASE Jacksonville
Jeff W. Styron, COMNAVBASE Jacksonville
Steve Kleft, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Big Pine Key, Florida
Lisa Gordon, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
John Carter, Florida Department of Health
W. H. Harrison, City of Key West, Local Reuse Authority
Bob Smith, City of Key West, Local Reuse Authority
Chuck Bryan, Brown & Root Environmental
John Shipman, Brown & Root Environmental

Members of the public present (who signed the attendance sheet):

Rev. Barbara Black, Plan 1999, Key West, Florida
R. L. Blazevic, Key West, Florida
C. Daniels, Key West, Florida
Vicente DeArmas, Key West, Florida
Homer Herrick, Florida Keys Audubon Society

Welcome

Ms. Loder opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees.

Public Comment Management for This Meeting

Ms. Loder stated that the public could make comments and ask questions at the conclusion of each presentation.

Old Business

- Copies of Fact Sheet Number 5, *Environmental Update*, were distributed to the RAB members. The Navy will place copies for public information at the Information Repository at the Monroe County Library in Key West.
- Mr. Demes told Ms. Orlandi that the Navy's responses to her questions on IR-2 and IR-6 had been prepared and that she would receive them within the next several days.

Update on Interim Remedial Activities

Mr. Patrick reviewed the remediation status of two sites: the Fleming Key Landfill [Installation Restoration Site 8 (IR-8)], and the Jet Engine Test Cell [Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU)-9]. He stated that the contractor, Ocean Breeze Construction, Inc., would begin the construction of the 1,800-foot shoreline protection system at Fleming Key in the next several months. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has granted a construction permit and the Army Corps of Engineers permit is expected after the COE public comment period, which expires in January. Mr. Patrick also stated that the pump-and-treat system at SWMU-9 would operate for the next 3 to 6 months, and that the data will be included in the Corrective Measures Study for this site.

Update of RCRA Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation Activities

Mr. Bryan reviewed the RFI/RI work performed to date on the original four sites and eight additional sites. He added that a comprehensive background report will be ready for review by the RAB before its next meeting (March 1997). Mr. Bryan also used display maps to describe the set of nine investigations to be performed at the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) sites in Key West; this work should be completed in early 1998.

In response to several questions, Mr. Bryan explained that (1) the work at the BRAC zones would confirm the presence of contamination by collecting soil and groundwater (and surface water if there is any) samples and comparing them to Screening Action Levels; and (2) the BRAC zones were created as a result of the Environmental Baseline Survey.

In response to a question from Mr. Harrison, Mr. Patrick stated that the Navy would furnish copies of the display maps that Mr. Bryan used in his presentation; the copies would be on computer diskette.

Keystone Report discussion

Mr. Demes described the *Final Report of the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee: Consensus Principles and Recommendations for Improving Federal Facilities Cleanup* (the "Keystone Report"), and the Navy's development of topics for discussion by the RAB. He discussed the two topics that the Navy has presented to the RAB for study and discussion:

- Should the RAB increase its membership to include representatives of communities of color, city and county governments, and NAS Key West employees, or other individuals and organizations that might have a stake in anticipated cleanup decisions, especially given the interest in upcoming BRAC activities?
- Should the RAB establish a self-evaluation process?

He also described a number of other topics and asked the RAB members to provide comments on them. All comments should be returned to Mr. Williams within 30 days.

The ensuing conversation dealt with ensuring that the message of the Navy's cleanup program and accomplishments gets to all sectors of the NAS Key West stakeholders. Mr. Patrick stated the Navy's belief that this information has to get to the entire community and asked the RAB for suggestions on how to accomplish this. The RAB had several immediate suggestions (working with local community organizations, contacting the original list of candidates for RAB membership, contacting those listed in the Community Relations Plan, contacting local government representatives, making presentations to the City Commissioners).

Mr. Harrison and Mr. Smith of the Local Reuse Authority (LRA) invited the Navy/RAB to participate in a February 8, 1997, meeting in Bahama Village to introduce the Navy's cleanup program to that audience. Mr. Harrison explained that public participation is part of the LRA planning process. Mr. Demes volunteered to be the Navy representative at the LRA meeting.

The conversation then dealt with the RAB's feeling about changing/expanding its membership. Mr. Demes asked the members to express their opinions about this in written comments.

Mr. Demes then led the conversation about the possibility of establishing a self-evaluation process for the RAB. He stated his belief that the NAS Key West RAB has been successful and that the RAB success had been instrumental in the station's nomination for the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Cleanup Award. He also stated that the RAB charter sets goals for the Board and that instruments such as the questionnaire are already used by the RAB to evaluate itself. The RAB agreed that sufficient self-evaluation processes are in place. Information

obtained from the questionnaire and stakeholder input forms distributed at the meeting are sufficient for the current self-evaluation needs of the RAB.

Fiscal Year 1988 Projects

Mr. Patrick described the process for setting priorities for and funding IR Program projects, and how that process would be applied for Fiscal Year 1998. He explained how the Navy would use recommendations from the Keystone Report (see above) to ensure that the funding of environmental cleanup projects was credible, open, and understandable. In addition, he explained the "risk plus other factors" method for setting cleanup priorities, the "rolling milestone" (budget consultation and milestone-setting) process, and the method the Navy uses in dealing with budget shortfalls and windfalls (flexible fair share approach). In that context, he praised NAS Key West for its ability to respond effectively to cleanup budget fluctuations and the station's subsequent nomination for the Environmental Cleanup Award.

Mr. Patrick described the completed and planned NAS Key West cleanup projects, and distributed a set of Public Stakeholder Input forms asking RAB members and others to assign priorities to the remaining projects. He asked for return of the forms to Mr. Williams within 30 days, and stated that the Navy would use the input as part of its priority-setting process. He concluded his presentation with an explanation of the timetable for the Navy's environmental cleanup budget process.

In response to a questions, Mr. Reed explained the differences in the budget process established for BRAC sites.

Ms. Stafford asked if there was historical documentation on the BRAC sites listed on the Public Stakeholder Input forms that the stakeholders could use in assigning cleanup priorities. Mr. Patrick suggested the draft version of the Environmental Baseline Survey.

Environmental Data Base

Mr. Demes announced that a group of Naval Reserve officers has built a data base of environmental testing conducted in the Florida Keys, and that the Navy will share the data base with interested groups.

Environmental Coordinator

Mr. Demes introduced Paul Camire, who recently became the Environmental Coordinator for NAS Key West activities.

Potential Topics for Next Meeting (March 31, 1997)

Mr. Demes and Ms. Loder agreed that the next meeting would include the following topics:

- Keystone Report Discussion
- Update of Interim Remedial Activities
- Update of RCRA Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation
- Status of Base Realignment and Closure Activities

Adjournment

Ms. Loder adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m.



Remedial Action Update

NAS Key West

Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southern Division

At Naval Air Station (NAS) Key West, Florida, an Interim Remedial Action (IRA) is underway at the Jet Engine Test Cell. This IRA is being conducted as part of the Navy's Installation Restoration Program. A pump and treat system was installed to prevent groundwater contamination from spreading to an adjacent lagoon.

Description of the Problem

A contamination assessment, performed to investigate a known fuel spill, identified areas of JP-5 free product and a dissolved plume of chlorinated solvent. More recent sampling at the site confirmed the presence of these contaminants, and an IRA was proposed to prevent them from spreading to the adjacent lagoon.

How the Problem Was Addressed

Natural attenuation was considered, but rejected because it could not assure protection of the lagoon. In July 1996, a pump and treat system was installed to address both contaminants. Two extraction wells were placed in the JP-5 plume and one in the solvent plume. An oil water separator and air stripper were installed to treat extracted groundwater and a recharge gallery was developed to return treated

water to the ground. Pumping rates were designed to contain the plumes and prevent spreading. The system is expected to be operational at least through 1997. Close coordination with EPA and state regulators occurred throughout the planning process.

Treatment Results

This system has been operational since August 1996. System maintenance and testing of the extracted groundwater was performed weekly

for the first month and monthly thereafter. Following start-up adjustments, test results show that the system is consistently reducing solvent concentrations to below cleanup goals; however, the amount of free product recovered has been less than anticipated. Tests of groundwater elevations indicate the pumping has achieved hydraulic containment.

Savings Realized

- Use of local contractors and direct hire personnel to install the system was faster and less expensive, as compared to a specialty installation contractor. Savings estimated at \$5,000.
- Use of BOQ facilities, discount airfares, and combined trips saved more than \$7,500.
- The number of sampling analytes has been reduced based on favorable test results, saving \$500 per month in lab cost.



Participants (ABB Environmental Services, Inc.; Bechtel Environmental, Inc.; Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Environmental Protection Agency; Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southern Division)

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Update of Interim Remedial Activities NAS Key West IR Program

*Dudley Patrick
Southern Division,
NAVFACENGCOM*



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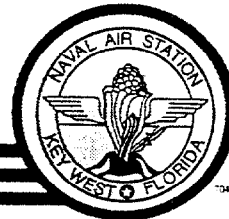
Status as of 27 January 1997

- *IR-8 Fleming Key South Landfill*
 - construction of a 1800 linear foot shoreline protection system (revetment)
 - subcontract awarded to Ocean Breeze Construction, Inc. for design/build
 - construction now slated to begin February-March 1997



Status as of 27 January 1997 (cont.)

- *IR-8 Fleming Key South Landfill*
 - received construction permit from FDEP
 - awaiting ACOE permit approval
 - *late start by ACOE*
 - *public comment period (expires this month)*
 - awaiting final design modifications from OB
 - *slope design modified to ensure adequate structural stability*



Status as of 27 January 1997 (cont.)

- *SWMU-9 Jet Engine Test Cell*
 - installation of a groundwater pump and treat system completed in July 1996
 - system groomed and adjusted through Fall 1996
 - continues to operate with only minor maintenance
 - *began treatment of biological fouling in wells*



Status as of 27 January 1997 (cont.)

- *SWMU-9 Jet Engine Test Cell*
 - will operate a minimum of 3-6 months more to allow collection and evaluation of performance data
 - data will be incorporated in the Corrective Measures Study



SUGGESTED TOPICS OF CONVERSATION FOR THE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD NAVAL AIR STATION, KEY WEST

The Navy has suggested two topics of discussion to the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for the Naval Air Station (NAS) Key West based on the findings published in the *Final Report of the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee: Consensus Principles and Recommendations for Improving Federal Facilities Cleanup* (the "Keystone Report"). These topics were culled from a longer list of potential topics, a number of which the Navy has presented to the RAB as topics it could discuss either later in 1997 or as events made such discussion more appropriate. The following paragraphs present the two topics suggested by the Navy for RAB discussion and some detail to support such a discussion:

- *Should the RAB increase its membership to include representatives of communities of color, city and county governments, and NAS Key West employees, or other individuals and organizations that might have a stake in anticipated cleanup decisions, especially given the interest in upcoming Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) activities?*

The issue of this topic is whether the membership of the RAB meets the needs of the entire Key West/Monroe County community. The Keystone Report goes to particular lengths to stress the need for participation on the RAB by representatives of local communities of color and low-income communities. If such participation does not exist, the public stakeholders in those communities do not receive information about Federal activities in clear understandable terms. (pp. 39-40) Conversely, the RAB has no way to obtain information from stakeholders who often have substantial interest in the success of cleanup activities, because the RAB does not have a direct access to solicit that information. (p. 97)

The RAB should reflect to the extent possible the diversity of the community and of the social and cultural values different groups of people might have. To achieve this goal, the Keystone Report presents several recommendations for RAB action:

- ◆ Add members to achieve representation of a larger constituency (p. 52)
- ◆ Use local media (cable TV access, newspapers, and local Internet service providers to get people involved (p. 43)
- ◆ Ensure the cultural sensitivity and relevancy of materials released for public participation, including the use of languages other than English if appropriate and the presentation of scientific information at a variety of levels to facilitate the broadest possible spectrum of understanding (p. 43)

The report also recommends (pp. 57-58) that RABs limit their size to promote efficiency and encourage participation, while ensuring representation of major stakeholder groups. If the RAB decides to expand its membership, it should emphasize interests that did not receive

adequate representation when the Board was formed, and any new stakeholder groups that might not have existed when the Board was formed.

Local governments comprise another stakeholder group the Keystone Report recommends be included in RAB membership (pp. 39-40). The report states that Federal agencies do not always include local government decisionmakers early enough so the local officials can identify areas of concern related to cleanup, downsizing, and closure. The report also states that, while the role of local governments in the RAB process is not clear (p. 49), the role does exist and local governments have a substantial stake in cleanup activities (p. 97).

In relation to local government participation on the RAB, the Keystone report has several recommendations:

- ◆ Use local government and other community involvement mechanisms (zoning meetings, environmental boards, public health departments, local reuse authorities as well as RABs) to exchange information on cleanup activities. (p. 43)
- ◆ Enable local governments to determine if and how they can participate (i.e., full member, ex officio member, advisory board convenor). (p. 60)

The report briefly mentions (p. 57) a third group of stakeholders (one that is often overlooked) that should have the opportunity to participate as board members -- the onsite workers at the facility, especially those involved in or affected by cleanup activities. This group has a specific interest in site health conditions as well as other cleanup activities, downsizing, and site reuse plans.

- *Should the RAB establish a self-evaluation process?*

The issue of this topic is the need for RABs to have/develop processes by which they can determine their performance. The Keystone Report states (pp. 70-71) that RABs should establish performance goals and then establish a self-evaluation process to address those goals and how the Board did in reaching them. The report suggests a three-step process for evaluating progress:

- ◆ State the goals the RAB (and the Federal agency) has set for itself
- ◆ Identify actions and milestones necessary to achieve the goals
- ◆ Assess the RAB progress in taking action and reaching the goals

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON
ADDITIONAL TOPICS OF DISCUSSION FOR
THE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
NAVAL AIR STATION, KEY WEST**

In addition to the two topics discussed at the January 27, 1997, Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting, the Naval Air Station (NAS) Key West has developed several other questions for RAB member comments. Please study these questions, which are based on the *Final Report of the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee: Consensus Principles and Recommendations for Improving Federal Facilities Cleanup* (the "Keystone Report"), and provide comments on them, including whether the RAB should discuss them at future meetings. Some of these topics could be discussed at any time during the next year; discussion of the other topics could be more appropriate in the future as events made such a discussion more germane (e.g., future land use in relation to BRAC).

Please provide comments on these potential topics for discussion later in 1997 (if you need more room, please continue your comments on the other side and reference the question number):

1. Has the RAB received the training necessary to perform its tasks? If not, what training should the RAB receive?

2. Should the RAB change its charter to increase its oversight role for environmental cleanup in the areas of prioritizing/sequencing cleanup activities; evaluating cleanup-related risk assessments in terms of any harm an activity might cause and the nature and consequences of that harm (i.e., a community-centered as opposed to an NAS Key West-centered approach); and keeping the costs of accomplishing the cleanup mission as low as possible?
